

## **The Living Water-Woman at the Well**

One day, Jesus had to go through Samaria. Samaria was a place that Jewish people, like Jesus and his disciples, did not like to enter. The Jewish people and the Samaritan people disliked one another very much! So they came to a town in Samaria after walking a long time. Jesus was tired and thirsty from the journey, so he sat down by the town's well of water. His disciples walked on into town to buy food and left Jesus there alone.

It was about noon. Just then, a Samaritan woman came to draw water from the well. Now this was an unusual thing because most women came together in a group of friends in the early morning hours to get their water. She came alone – because she was lonely—she did not have friends. Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink of water?”

The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink of water?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans and men didn't have a lot to say to women.)

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”

“Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?”

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.....you see, the water I give is the presence of God for your life!”

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” He told her, “Go, call your friends and come back.”

17 “I have no friends,” she replied.

Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no friends. 18 The fact is, you do not have friends because you have sinned in the past.”

“What you have just said is quite true” The woman said. (In fact, that is why she came alone to the well. She didn't have friends – people looked down on her because of her past.) But, Jesus loved her, in spite of her past. He wanted to be her friend.

The woman said, “I know that Christ is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.” Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman.

But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

**This story teaches us that Jesus, the Living Water, is God’s way of giving us what we cannot live without. We cannot live without God in our lives.**